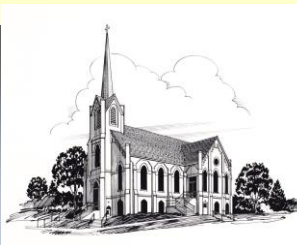


THE SPIRE



April 2019
Volume 6, Issue 4

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Pastor's COLUMN

By Rev. Mark Eldal

In many ways the Gospel of John is organized around a series of miracles called “signs.” These “signs” seem to build to a crescendo as they begin with Jesus turning the water into wine and then progress to him healing the lame man, feeding the five thousand, healing the man born blind, raising Lazarus from the dead, and then ultimately the greatest miracle of all, the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

It is this ultimate miracle, the resurrection of Jesus from the dead that we celebrate on Easter, and it is this miracle that can enable our lives to build to a crescendo as we trust in Jesus.

For the same power that raised Jesus from the dead can raise us to new life every day in him. It can be the “abundant life” of which Jesus spoke. This abundant life is not necessarily free of troubles and struggles, but rather a life filled with meaning and peace whatever the circumstances might be in which we live.

As we live the abundant life, we can as Paul would write, be led in “triumphal procession” by Jesus. As we are led in this procession it can eventually bring us to the ultimate miracle in our lives, our resurrection from the dead someday.

Thus, in many ways the resurrection of Jesus can enable our lives to build to a crescendo as Jesus gives us new life here and now, and then ultimately raises us to life everlasting in him.

May the resurrected Jesus lead us in triumphal procession in this life and through eternity, as we trust in him as our Savior and Lord.

God bless,

Pastor Mark

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April 2019 Special Days

Some of the special days celebrated in April are:

- Palm Sunday – April 14
- Maundy Thursday – April 18
- Good Friday – April 19
- Easter – April 21
- Earth Day – April 22
- Admin. Prof. Day – April 24
- Secretaries Day – April 24

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please join us for Lenten Services April 3th and April 10th @ 6:30 PM (a meal will be served afterwards.) **During Lent, on Friday mornings, Men's Lenten Prayer Breakfasts** are being held at the city auditorium from 6:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m. FELC Men will serve April 5th. We will have Maundy Thursday Services on April 18th at 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Services on April 19th at 7:00 p.m. There will not be evening services on Saturday, April 20th. **We will have Easter Morning Services Sunday, April 21st at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Join us for Easter Breakfast @ 9:30 a.m.**

LENTEN SERVERS

April 3.....Lenten Services—Ruth Serves

April 10th.....Lenten Services—Hannah Serve

IF you have provided food in the last few months and have not received your dishes, please check downstairs in the kitchen as we have an abundance.

Ready for some home cooking - A Ham Dinner will be served at the Swedish Heritage Center on Sunday April 7th, 11 till 1. Free will donation.

The Pathfinder Chorus Production Show has been postponed to a later date due to the flooding in Fremont. For more information contact Darrell Denker.

SPRING CLEANING?? Don't forget the sewing group. They love blankets, sheets, mattress pads, material, embroidery floss or sewing thread and live bodies to help!

It's time again to sign up for Camp Carol Joy Holling. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Mark or Tess in the office for details.



BAPTISMS — WE WELCOMED INTO MEMBERSHIP:

Harlow Marie Andersen through holy baptism on Saturday at 5:30 p.m. March 9, 2019 at First Evangelical Lutheran Church. Her parents are Kaleb and Luryn Andersen. Her sponsors are Tyler and Elyce Peterson. Harlow was born December 27, 2018 in Fremont, NE. Her grandparents are Kent and Brenda Andersen and Marty and Jeanie Peterson. Her great-grandparents are the late Don Andersen and Patsy Andersen, the late Pete and Lois Schmidt, Ben and Linda Murray and Larry and Kathleen Petersen. **WELCOME HARLOW!!!**

Kwynn Marie Case through holy baptism on Sunday at 9:30 a.m. March 10, 2019 at First Evangelical Lutheran Church. Her parents are Tanner and Kylee Case. Her sponsors are Shelby Andersen and Tiegan Case. Kwynn was born October 18, 2018 in Fremont, NE. Her grandparents are Gary and Tammy Case and David & Deb Ibsen and Brent and Jeanne Hurlbert. Her great-grandparents are Janice and the late Norm Case. **WELCOME KWYNN!!!**

Brentley Kash Elsasser through holy baptism on Saturday at 5:30 p.m. March 16, 2019 at First Evangelical Lutheran Church. His parents are Gerron and Kristin Elsasser. His sponsors are Emily Mauch and Roni Mauch. Brentley was born December 31, 2018 in Fremont, NE. His grandparents are Gail and Gary Elsasser and Tina Mauch and Kit Wagner. **WELCOME BRENTLEY!!**

Freddie Bennett IV through holy baptism on Sunday, March 17, 2019. Freddie was born on October 20, 2018. His parents are Mackenzie Milks and Freddie Bennett. His sponsors are Chelsea and Owen Schernikau. His grandparents are Georgia and P.D. Stibor. **CONGRATULATIONS FREDDIE!!!**

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Reminder: There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday. I hope that everyone gets to spend time with their family celebrating Christ's resurrection. Happy Easter!

The Pay-It-Forward for March we are gifting to Justin and Megan Loeffler. They had extensive flood damage. Our April Pay-It-Forward will be for Christy Jones for her substantial medical bills after her hospital stay.

Our Sunday School will sing on April 14th (Palm Sunday), the 3rd graders will receive their bibles and we will have our annual Easter egg hunt and party. We will have our spring outing at the West Point Bowling alley on May 5th and we will finish up the year singing on Mother's Day-May 12.

The children will need to pick up the gifts they created for their Mother in church on Mother's Day (Sunday.) School kids will be dismissed this day-No class!

Bible School will run May 28th - May 31st

Thank you and Happy Spring! ~ Angie

CONFIRMATION NEWS

Confirmands will continue to meet after the Lenten service on April 3rd and 10th beginning at 7:30 p.m. There is a meal after the Lenten services. Starting April 17th, confirmation will resume the 6:30-8:30 p.m. meeting time.

BIBLE STUDY NEWS

YOUTH GROUP meets every Wednesday 6:30 - 8:30. A meal is provided. It is open to all current Junior and Senior High students in the community. There is a sign-up sheet in the multipurpose room for anyone who wishes to help serve or donate treats.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY is on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 9:00 am.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY will meet Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m. They are looking at parables from the new testament. For more information contact Nancy Johnson or Pastor Mark.



**Joan Magnusson
Laurie Schold
Tom Wallerstedt**



**SEWING MEETINGS EVERY MONDAY AND TUESDAY MORNINGS
8:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m.**



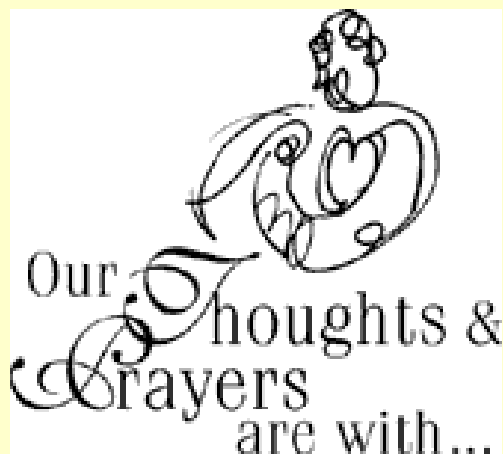
April 3 Pastor Mark's Birthday
April 3.....Bingo @ O.H. 9:30 a.m. ..Ruth
April 3Lenten Service—Ruth Serves
April 8.....WOW Executive Meeting 9 a.m.
April 10.....WOW Group Meetings 9 a.m. & 5 p.m.
April 10.....Lenten Service—Hannah Serves
April 14.....Palm Sunday
April 14-21...Holy Week
April 21.....Easter Sunday
April 21.....Devotions @ O.H. 2:30 p.m. ...Hannah
Clean Kitchen.....Ruth

Dorcas Society - April 24th @ 2:00 p.m. @ Oakland Heights



DORCAS SOCIETY

The Dorcas Society would like to extend an invitation to anyone who would like to join. We meet the last Wednesday of the month at Oakland Heights. Our time together includes a bible study, short business meeting and fellowship time with treats.



IN OUR PRAYERS OF CONCERN PLEASE INCLUDE:

Frank Johnson, Donna Preston, Cheryl Denker, Christy Jones, Judy Groene, Marilyn Peterson, Leonard Canarsky, Ewald Dahlquist, Suzanne Johnson, Phil Hall, Elfie Nelson, Rojane Linder, Duke Wagner, Paul Ueding, Betty Rogers, Marlene Anderson, Krissa Schonert, Bill Johnson, Gary Elsasser, Denise (Hall) Salzbrenner, Chloe Coates, Deloris Nielsen, Candace Johnson, Tony Kochel, Mel Swenson, Stacy Long, Lincoln Nobel Hangman, Andy Kruse, Landon Johnson, the family of Don Binkley (Angela Bittner's father) our service men and women, and all those deployed to foreign countries, our shut-ins, and our youth ministry.



**First Evangelical Lutheran Church
Oakland, Nebraska**

The church council met Mar. 4, 2019 at 7:02 p.m. Members in attendance were Pastor Eldal, Sam Schmidt, Mike Blanc, Clendon Rost, Tom Meyer, Keri Thomsen, Linda Jones and Kathy Pearson.

Devotions were given by Keri Thomsen.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer's report was reviewed and discussed. Month-to-date expenses exceeded income by \$5,727.77 (Deficit). Year-to-date expenses exceeded income by \$5,727.77 (Deficit). There were no corrections or additions and approved as stated. Pastor Eldal noted that \$3,000 was received from the Lois Messerschmidt estate.

Pastor presented his report for the month of February.

There were no Committee Reports or Old Business to discuss.

New Business

- 1.)Committee signup. Board members adding their names to committees were Brad Bousquet, Property Committee; Clendon Rost, Education Committee; Kathy Pearson, Worship Committee and Mike Blanc, Audit Committee.
- 2.)Gun Safe. Mike will research servicing the walk-in safe in the basement.
- 3.)Marque Sign. The Blair Sign Company will be contacted again for repairs and/or upgrades.
- 4.)Youth Service Opportunities. Pastor Eldal stated that he will contact Tess to find out who has shown interest and signed up for service opportunities.

April Communion Assistant: Apr 6 - Arla Denton and Apr 7 - Clendon Rost

Ash Wednesday(7pm) Communion Assistant: Kathy Pearson

April Meeting Devotion: Tom Meyer Meeting adjourned at 7:51pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Regular Monthly Meeting; April 1, 2019
@ 7:00 PM

Mike Blanc, Secretary

**April
Attendance**

2 & 3.....131
6 (Ash Wed)...84
10 & 11 ...186
1357
16 & 17....199
20.....75
23 & 24...151
27.....63
30 & 31.....

April Finances (minus 30 & 31)

Regular	\$13,713.00
Lenten.....	\$ 942.00
Designated	
Coffee Fund.....	\$ 136.00
Sunday School.....	\$ 11.00
Memorial.....	\$ 100.00
Ash Wednesday.....	\$1,452.00
Misc.....	\$ 494.00
Total.....	\$ 16,484.00

April's Birthdays

- 1 - Katie Miller
- 2 - Mark Johnson, Jamison Johnson, Peter Kruse
- 3 - Mark Eldal, Sandy Husar, Janice Johnson,
Marian Moseman, Clara Bittner
- 4 - Elaine Peterson, Janelle Guill-Mueller
- 6 - Zachary Denton, Dona Nelson, Anden Schold, Sierra Kloth
- 8 - Austin Jorgensen
- 9 - Johnnie Johnson, Nolan Magnusson
- 10 - Tara Miller, Taryn Kloth
- 11 - Brad Heineman
- 12 - Carson Thomsen, Merle Karstens, Bonnie Larson,
Marty Nelson, Clay Olson, Ivy Johnson
- 13 - Kara Peterson, Johnna Peterson
- 17 - Braeden Case, Roger Moderow, Jean Satree
- 18 - Mike Selk, Ann Anderson, Jacob Dixon
- 19 - Jennifer Ahrens
- 20 - Jane Moseman, Sabrina Rost
- 21 - Brad Bousquet, Roberta Sieck, Wayne Uman, Nathan Anderson
- 22 - Brian Magnusson, Deanna Ray
- 23 - Cole Christofferson
- 24 - Ashley Denton
- 27 - Judee Dix, Nathan Johnson, Nancy Johnson
- 28 - Nathan Larson
- 29 - Myrna Swanson
- 30 - Vivian Forks



- 1 - Dan & Mona Tanksley
- 10 - Tim & Annie Magnusson
- 12 - Kevin & Julie Wuestewald
Brad & Lela Heineman
- 23 - Bob & Jerri Case
- 25 - Richard & Mary Strom
- P.D & Georgia Stibor
- 27 - Mike & Cynthia Johnson

ORDER FORM - EASTER LILIES TO DECORATE THE CHURCH

Name: _____

Phone number: _____

In memory/honor of: _____



Please give this form to Tess in the office or leave in the offering plate on Sunday morning with \$16 if you wish to order the lily from Allie's flower shop. If you wish to purchase a lily elsewhere and bring it to the church, please attach this form to the lily. Thank you!

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Since our scholarship program is still relatively new, we would like to provide additional opportunities for high school youth to be engaged through service. Therefore, we are adding an additional service component for our high school youth, especially seniors, who have not had many opportunities to be engaged in church activities this year. Our goal is to award this scholarship to every high school senior in our congregation who have given of their time and talents to our church.

If you have not recorded any activities in the activity log at church, we would suggest participating in 8 hours of service projects to be eligible for the scholarship this year. We will be setting up multiple projects in two-hour increments. We will have a sign-up sheet at church, or you can sign up by texting Tess Johnson (402)380-5660 or Rachel Wise (402)-380-3031

Proposed service dates and times:

- Between 4-6 on the Mondays of April 1, 8, 15.
- Between 1-5 on the Sunday April 7.
- Between 4-6 on the Wednesdays of April 3, and 10.

First Lutheran is excited to show our appreciation for the service of our high school seniors with this award and to be a part of the journey of faith for our high school students.

If you have a service project you would like the youth to do, please call church. There is also a sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!! VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be May 28-30th. Alissa Bousquet is once again going to coordinate VBS. We need leaders for the music program as well as helpers to assist the leaders. These will include: teachers, kitchen help and crafts. All helpers will be greatly appreciated.

Please find the registration form below which needs to be filled out for each child. These forms may also be found in the multipurpose room. If you have any further questions, please contact Alissa at 402-380-2301.

VBS Registration Form

Name: _____ Age: _____ Birth Date: _____



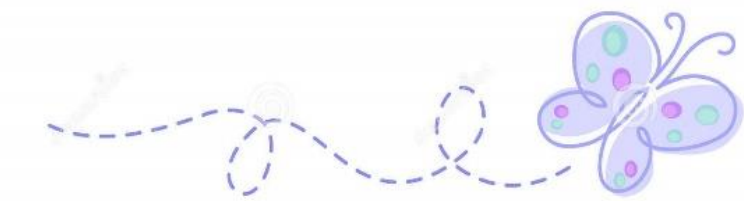
Grade Finished: _____ T-Shirt Size : _____

Parent/Guardian Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Secondary Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Medical Concerns: _____

APRIL 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:00PM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING APRIL FOOL'S DAY	2 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	3 9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 9:30AM BINGO @ OAKLAND HEIGHTS 6:30PM LENTEN SERVICES 7:30 PM -9:00 P.M. YOUTH GROUP & CONFIRMATION PASTOR MARK'S BIRTHDAY	4	5 	6 5:30PM COMMUNION SERVICE
7 8:45 AM CHOIR PRACTICE 9:30AM COMMUNION SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL	8 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 9:00AM WOW EXECUTIVE MEETING	9 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	10 9AM & 5PM WOW GROUP MEETINGS 6:30PM LENTEN SERVICES 7:30 PM -9:00 P.M. YOUTH GROUP & CONFIRMATION	11 6:30 P.M. BOY SCOUT MEETING	12	13 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICES
14 9:30AM PALM SUNDAY SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP& SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:45 AM CHOIR PRACTICE	15 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 	16 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	17 9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP & CONFIRMATION	18 7:00 PM MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE	19 7:00 PM GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE	20 NO WORSHIP SERVICES
21 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM EASTER SERVICES 9:30 BREAKFAST EASTER	22 8:30AM SEWING GROUP EARTH DAY	23 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	24 2:00PM DORCAS SOCIETY MEETING @ O.H. 6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP & CONFIRMATION 5:15PM EVANGELISM COMMITTEE	25 6:30 P.M. BOY SCOUT MEETING	26	27 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
28 8:45 AM CHOIR PRACTICE 9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL	29 8:30AM SEWING GROUP	30 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING				

APRIL 2019 USHERS:

7th: Roger Moderow, Sam Schmidt, Dale Jones and Lisa and Scott Gatewood family

14th: Larry Johnson, Tony Johanson and Johnnie Johnson

18th Maunday Thurs: Ian Lundquist, Wyatt Seagren, Colton and Carson Thomsen

21st Easter Early Service: Norman Johnson and Norman Wallerstedt

21st Late Service: Larry Johnson, Gordon Nelson and Jared Mulder

28th : Clare Wiltse, Tanner and Kylee Case family and Greg Johnson

Ushers for Lenten Services

3rd - (4) boys or girls from Confirmation Class

10th - (4) boys or girls from Confirmation Class

APRIL 2019 GREETERS:

7th: Linda Jones and Lisa and Scott Gatewood family

14th: Melanie, Hayden and Emmett Johanson and Melinda Johnson

21st Easter Early Service: Sally Johnson and Mary Alice Pearson

21st Easter Late Service: Susan Mulder and Marissa Mulder

28th : Kylee and Tanner Case family and Nancy Johnson

APRIL 2019 ACOLYTE AND VIDEO

Apr. (Lent) 3 - Daniel Bedrnicek
7 - Samantha Canarsky

(Lent) 10 - Kyler Case

Palm Sunday 14 - Lillian Ehlers

(Maundy Thu) 18 - Anisten Rennerfeldt

Good Friday 19 - Carson Vecera

Easter - 21 8:30 - Hannah Deemer
10:30 - TBD

28 - Kara Peterson

May 5 - Johnna Peterson

Apr. (Lent) 3 - Gabi Linder
7 - Daniel Bedrnicek
(Lent) 10 - Samantha Canarsky
14 - Kyler Case
18 - Lillian Ehlers
19 - Anisten Rennerfeldt
21 8:30 - Carson Vecera
10:30 -
28 - Johnna Peterson
5 - Kara Peterson

APRIL 2019 COFFEE SERVERS

Diane Lindstrom and Valerie Lindstrom

Roxanne Lundquist and Brenda Andersen

Joan Magnusson and Annie Magnusson

Mona Tanksley and Phyllis Meyer

Patty Miller and Patricia Moderow

Casey Moseman and Jane Moseman

Sunday, April 7, 2019

Sunday, April 14, 2019

Sunday, April 21, 2019

Sunday, April 28, 2019

Sunday, May 5, 2019

Sunday, May 12, 2019

**April Organists**

7 - Bryan Bohn

14 - Billye Pearson

21 - Bryan Bohn

29 - Billye Pearson

**April Sound System**

7 - Dan Tanksley

14 - Tess Johnson

Early 21 - Dan Tanksley/Jim Nelson

Late 21 - Tess Johnson/Jim Nelson

29 - Dan Tanksley



CHRISTIAN HUMOR TO TICKLE YOUR LIFE



First Ev. Lutheran Church
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firstlutheranchurch_152@q.com

We are committed to providing
spiritual enrichment to ALL who
seek the Lord.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit
Organization
Permit No. 11
Oakland, NE
68045

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.firstlutheran-oakland.com



Join us:

Lenten Services - April 3rd & 10th @ 6:30PM
Sunday School sings - April 14th (Palm Sunday)
Maunday Thursday service April 18th @ 7:00 PM
Good Friday service April 19th @ 7:00 PM
No Evening Service April 20th
Easter Sunday Service @ 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM
Easter Brunch @ 9:30 AM

